

Serial No. 09/973,265  
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Rampal et al.  
Page 7

Remarks

Claims 1-47 are pending with claims 8, 15, 16, 18-20, and 30-47 being withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 6, 7, 14, 23, and 27 are independent. Claims 1-3, 5-16, 21-23, 27, and 29 have been amended and claims 4, 17-19, and 28 have been cancelled. The amendments to the claims merely put into independent form those claims that have been objected to in the office action. As such, no new matter has been added.

Claim 10, which was rejected as being indefinite, has been amended to correct its dependency. This is believed to adequately address the indefiniteness rejection.

Claims 1, 21, 22, and 27 have been rejected as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,228,400) or Bergstrand (WO 96/01623). Claims 1-3 have been rejected as being anticipated by Lovgren (U.S. Patent No. 4,786,505). Claims 1-3, 21, 22, and 27 have been rejected as being anticipated by Henriksen (U.S. Patent No. 6,391,342) or obvious over Chen (U.S. Patent No. 6,096,340). By placing the objected-to claims in independent form, including the base claim and intervening dependent claims, the amendments to the claims are believed to address these rejections. As such, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-14, 21-27, and 29 are believed to be allowable over the art of record.

Applicants petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action dated September 22, 2004. Authorization is given to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 50-0912 as necessary for the extension of time and for the newly independent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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